County Facts: Ward County, ND
Population 69,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: Ward County 3.2%, ND 2.6%, United States 4.7%
- Poverty rate: Ward County 11.7%, ND 10.1%, United States 11.1%
- Median family income (000s): Ward County $67, ND $60, United States $55
- Population growth 2000-2017: Ward County 4.4%, ND 5.1%, United States 7.4%
- Manufacturing share of workforce: Ward County 17%, ND 16%, United States 15%
- Farming share of workforce: Ward County 10%, ND 9%, United States 8%
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): Ward County 4.7%, ND 6.4%, United States 7.6%

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: Ward County 55%, ND 46%, United States 58%
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: Ward County 32%, ND 32%, United States 31%
- Percent achieving American Dream: Ward County 22%, ND 20%, United States 21%
- Percent giving birth as a teen: Ward County 10%, ND 11%, United States 12%
- Percent landing in jail: Ward County 0.6%, ND 0.6%, United States 0.7%
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): Ward County $4.5, ND $5.2, United States $6.4
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

4-Year Colleges

- **Low-income share of students**: 9.4%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 45.4%

2-Year Colleges

- **Low-income share of students**: 15.6%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 43.2%

**Minot State Univ. (public)**

- **Low-income share of students**: 9.3%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 14.6%

**North Dakota 4-year-college average**

- **Low-income share of students**: 6.5%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 12.8%

**U.S. 4-year-college average**

- **Low-income share of students**: 9.3%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 15.6%

**Dakota College At Bottineau (public)**

- **Low-income share of students**: 14.6%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 43.2%

**North Dakota 2-year-college average**

- **Low-income share of students**: 12.8%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 46.6%

**U.S. 2-year-college average**

- **Low-income share of students**: 32.9%
- **Low-income student success rate**: 32.9%

*: Data refers to the full college system, not just this campus. †: In nearby county

Local Demographics

- **Percent Black**: Ward County 3%, ND 3%, United States 14%
- **Percent Hispanic**: Ward County 4%, ND 3%, United States 4%
- **Percent over age 65**: Ward County 13%, ND 13%, United States 13%
- **Percent college grad**: Ward County 16%, ND 16%, United States 16%
- **Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)**: Ward County 56, ND 49, United States 56
- **Life expectancy (years)**: Ward County 83, ND 83, United States 83

**Ward County, ND**

Katie Donnelly, Clancy Green, and Danny Yagan
Definitions and Sources

The Local Economy
- Unemployment rate (August 2018, BLS)
- Poverty rate (2012-2016 ACS)
- Median family income (2016 ACS)
- Manufacturing share of workforce (2012-2016 ACS)
- Farming share of workforce (2012-2016 ACS)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (BLS LAUS)

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out
- Percent graduating any college (2-yr or 4-yr, Tax Data 2, N/A for some counties)
- Percent reaching upper middle-class (top 20% of the U.S. income distribution, Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent achieving American Dream (share of local low-income kids—i.e. those with 25th-income-percentile parents—who reach the top 20% of the U.S. income distribution as adults, Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent (of local female kids) giving birth as a teen (Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent landing in jail (percent of local kids in jail on 1 April 2010, Tax Data 1 and 2010 Census, N/A for some counties)
- Local school expenditure per student (in public schools, NCES, N/A for some counties)

Local Colleges and Upward Mobility
- Low-income share of students (share of age-18-22 students with bottom-20% parents, Tax Data 2)
- Low-income student success rate (share of low-income age-18-22 students who reach the top 40% of the U.S. income distribution as adults, Tax Data 2)

Local Demographics
- Percent Black (2012-2016 ACS)
- Percent Hispanic (2012-2016 ACS)
- Percent over age 65 (2010 Census)
- Percent college grad (4-yr college, 2012-2016 ACS)
- Crime rate (serious violent and property arrests per 10,000 residents, FBI Uniform Crime Reports, N/A for some counties)
- Life expectancy (at age 40, Tax Data 3, N/A for some counties)
- Opioid deaths (per 10,000 residents in 2017, CDC, N/A for some counties and some counties report population weighted commuting zone average)

Sources Legend
- ACS: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Surveys, 2012-2016
- CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2017 on CDC WONDER Online Database.
- Census: U.S. Census Bureau